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[Inclosure.]

Vital statistics of San Juan, P. R., for the month of October, 1902.

Alcoholism.....	1	Locomotor ataxia.....	1
Anæmia.....	5	Malaria.....	2
Anthrax.....	1	Meningitis.....	4
Aortic insufficiency.....	2	Mitral insufficiency.....	2
Athrepsia.....	2	Old Age.....	4
Bright's disease.....	2	Peritonitis.....	2
Bronchitis.....	2	Pernicious fever.....	1
Broncho-pneumonia.....	2	Pulmonary tuberculosis.....	14
Cachexiæ.....	4	Pulmonary congestion.....	2
Cardiac lesion.....	3	Puerperal septicæmia.....	1
Dropsy.....	1	Rachitis.....	2
Dysentery.....	1	Spasm of the glottis.....	1
Eclampsia.....	1	Tetanus.....	2
Encephalitis.....	1	Ulcer of stomach.....	1
Endocarditis.....	4		
Entero-colitis.....	1	Total.....	90
Epilepsy.....	2		
Gastro-enteritis.....	10	October, 1901—	
Gastritis.....	1	Births.....	72
Hemorrhage, post-partum.....	1	Deaths.....	56
Intestinal tuberculosis.....	1	October, 1902—	
Leprosy.....	1	Births.....	74
Leukæmia.....	1	Deaths.....	90

RUSSIA.

Cholera at Vladivostok and in Manchuria.

[By R. T. Greener, Commercial Agent, United States.]

July 4, cholera was announced as at Tientsin, Iukow, Tiehlin, and along the Liao River, and as spreading northward along the line of the Chinese Eastern Railroad. Several cases were reported, all Chinese, 20 in all. An English vessel was reported as bringing the infection to Tientsin; several deaths occurred on the voyage. Three dead bodies were thrown overboard; coolies and crew pledged to secrecy. The master was arrested, but denied all knowledge; released by His British Majesty's local consul. The case was appealed to the British minister at Peking, where it is now pending. At Iukow, August 10, 505 died; cases, 396 Chinese; of 172 Russians, 88 died.

July 11, our acting governor, Paolenko, announced cholera at Harbin (Hugari I). At the first notice of the epidemic there was naturally a stampede of the Chinese laborers. This was of itself sufficient to insure the spread of the disease throughout eastern Manchuria. Twenty cases only were reported at first from Harbin. From private sources there were at least 40. The number of cases to August 6 were: Russians, 550; Chinese, 1,102. Recovered—Russians, 251; Chinese, 279. Died—Russians, 244; Chinese, 772.

July 18 to August 8, 565 cases were reported at Port Arthur, the mortality prevailing naturally among the Chinese.

Tsitsikar: July 20, was declared unhealthy; 643 cases, 477 fatal.

Blagoeschensk: July 20, disease proclaimed; to August 7, 176 cases among Russians, 3 Chinese; 109 Russians died, 3 Chinese.

Khailar: July 22, the disease appeared; up to July 30, 7 Russians had died, 3 Chinese; convalescent, 3 Russians, 7 Chinese.

Station Manchuria: To August 1, 29 cases; died, 11.

Station Pograditchnaya: To August 1, 11 cases among the Russian soldiers; died, 5.

Mookden (city): Reported unhealthy from July 19. Number of cases not given.

Girin: From August 4 to August 7, died, 48; by August 12, 63.

Dalny: Partial report to August 5, Chinese, 33 cases; died, 20.

Khingon: One case to August 1.

Habarofsk: July 28, disease announced; to August 12, 10 cases; 9 died—6 Russians, 2 Koreans, 1 Chinese.

Among the villages of the South Ussurisk district it was feared the epidemic would spread after it was known to be at Habarofsk. Fortunately the fears proved unfounded.

At the villages. Uspenka, to July 26, 5 cases, Koreans; Karmen-Riboleff, to July 30, 1 case on board a river steamship; Michaelofsk. to August 11, 2 cases, Russians, 2 Chinese; died, 1 Chinese; Loatkiesky, to August 12, 1 case; Tikhmenevo, to August 12, died, 13; sick, 5; Udaunka (country resort 12 miles from Vladivostok), to August 16, 3 cases, Koreans; all recovered.

From the beginning of the epidemic at Harbin a special committee at that point reported daily to Vladivostok. The line of railway, Harbin, Pogranitchnaya, Nikolsk was carefully watched, and every precaution taken to prevent the spread of the infection. Stray coolies were forbidden entrance to trains. There were at this time over 40,000 Chinese coolies in the Primorsk and Manchuria. Just at the outbreak more were expected, and they were badly needed for the Government work in Vladivostok. No more will arrive this year, while 50,000 are actually needed for many projected improvements.

Harbin has always been a sickly spot; dysentery, typhoid, and kindred diseases have carried off more than the cholera. The water there has been even worse than that of Vladivostok. Only with the completion of the Chinese Eastern Railroad has Harbin had time to get into sanitary shape, and now comes a setback. But the new town is well planned and with the cessation of cholera it will begin a second struggle for existence. Vladivostok has been improving from year to year; streets, drainage, and lighting are all better than even one year ago. The numerous hills make drainage easy; old streets are mended, new ones made, and others projected; new sewers have been built. Many houses of brick, with better light and ventilation have taken the place of the log houses of four years ago. Thus far an unusual downfall of rain, in May, July, and August, have cleared the ground, brought cool weather, and purified the city. When the disease appeared August 10, and was announced (4 cases, August 12), preparations had been extensively made to fight it. There was no fear, no interruption of trade, no panic, everything went on as usual. Dr. Blonsky, chief medical director of the South Ussurisk District, had taken all precautions. Barracks were built at isolated points for the Chinese, Korean, and Russian soldier and sailor cases. Daily bulletins were posted in all conspicuous places, published in the local press, and mailed to leading officials. The town itself, though poor, had voted 35,000 rubles to insure complete sanitation. The Russian consul at Nagasaki reported, July 11, 1 case there.

All ships from southern ports were subjected to strict quarantine. All trains north and west were visited by a medical inspector going and coming. Neither soldiers nor sailors were allowed to wander about the city. The U. S. steamships *Kentucky*, *Yorktown*, and *New York* visited this port during the worst part of the disease. None of the sailors were allowed ashore, but the officers came and went freely. September 4 was the height of the disease—thirty-seven cases in town and in the

barracks. There were 8 new cases, 6 men, 2 women. Seven men died. August 24, 11 men and 4 women had died—the greatest number of deaths. The inhabitants of the city were warned to be extra careful, and the disease has since decreased, until now it is only a question of time when it will be stamped out. In spite of all the precautions taken on the railroads the disease was brought by a Russian from Harbin in a quantity of extra clothing. He escaped, but a washerwoman caught the infection from the clothing and died. Amid all the praiseworthy activity of an inadequate medical force and the efforts of the military and naval authorities there were few instances of neglect; but these met summary reproof and correction. August 13 General-Governor Grodekoff visited the cholera barracks at Habarofsk at an unexpected hour. He found many of the heaters used for the patients broken and hence useless. He visited the burial place and found many graves not of the required depth; other bodies were exposed on account of delays in preparing graves. After a thorough inspection he returned to Habarofsk without his visit having been known. The next day the head of the sanitary commission, General ———, was summoned, interrogated, and dismissed the service. A new chief was appointed; the police-master was ordered to see that each body was buried at proper depth; every corpse to be properly interred by daybreak next day. Formal charges are also made against the dismissed officer for neglect of duty.

Reports from all points show the decrease of the epidemic. At Girni the Chinese celebrated the disappearance by elaborate ceremonies. A paper boat, supposed to contain the last remnants of the disease, was set on fire and then launched toward the east on the Uengari with prayers, incense, and beating of gongs, as omens of good luck on the departing journey.

From reports received September 9 at Blagoveschenk and Habarofsk there were only 7 cases; Vladivostok, 48; Port Arthur, 13; Dalny, August 30, 14 cases.

Inclosed is a report compiled from various bulletins and newspapers up to the date of this dispatch.

The cholera has been a blessing in disguise. It has caused activity in sanitary matters where before was laxity. It has broken through an amount of red tape, and caused the expenditure of some public money where it was most needed. Not only have the larger towns been cleaned up, much old rubbish burnt-up, and vast amounts of chloride of lime used in unaccustomed places, but a work has been begun in the villages which promises great results. The villages have been long asleep; dirt of years' accumulation lay in the roads; in many cases, the midwife was the only medical attendant for miles. True, there were district doctors, mostly surgeons. Medical attention was, however, a pure fiction. What could one district doctor do for personal attention over many villages widely scattered? What becomes of a people left for months—in some cases years—without any medical attention? The official doctor's time is taken up with actual visits to his outlying places, and in compiling and forwarding statistics. His duties are on inquests rather than for remedial purposes, no matter how interested or earnest he may be. Every such district doctor is a bureaucratic chief. In one district where the doctor had no funds to buy paper to wrap medicines in, he was forced to add a new item to his medical supplies—wrapping-paper. At several small hospitals in certain districts, a woman may not be received no matter how ill, because the doctor has no authority to receive her. * * * Siberian papers are full of complaints of harsh

treatment and lack of interest in their patients by the government doctors. Because of this lack of interest and attention and the numerous disorders attendant on this dispensatory system, the majority of Siberian peasants depend on the women doctors and on Tartar and aboriginal medical men, with their roots and incantations. * * *

The cholera has called particular attention to these sad cases. There is no medical school in all Siberia nearer than Tomsk. The only wonder is, the Russian peasant thrives so well on scant food, meager amusements, lack of medical care, and monotonous labor.

Cholera report.

Vladivostok : Russian cases, 46 men, 40 women ; died, 20 men, 10 women ; recovered, 15 men, 16 women. Chinese cases, 62 men, 1 woman ; died, 51 men ; recovered, 7 men, 1 woman. Japanese cases, 7 men, 5 women ; died, 6 men, 3 women ; recovered, 1 woman. Korean cases, 41 men, 5 women ; died, 37 men, 3 women ; recovered, 4 men, 1 woman.

Harbin : Total cases, 611 Russians, 1,236 Chinese ; recovered, 326 Russians, 843 Chinese ; died, 274 Russians, 361 Chinese.

Nicolsk-Ussuri : Total cases, 5 Russians, died, 1.

Kazakevitchovo, settlement : Eight cases, Koreans, died, 5.

Village Stepanopka : Thirteen cases, died, 5. Officially reported, the epidemic ceased August 29 (September 11), 1902.

Village Uspenka : Three cases. Officially reported, the epidemic ceased August 29 (September 11), 1902.

Village Michaelofka. Total cases, 94 ; died, 52 ; recovered, 37. Standing cases, 5.

Village Troitsk : Twelve cases. Broke out July 21 (August 3). The last case July 31 (August 13).

Village Donskay : Three cases, all fatal, among Cossacks.

Village Khalkidon : One case, Korean.

Village Dookhafskaia : Three cases, 1 Russian, 1 died.

Village Spasky : Ten cases, Russians, 4 Koreans ; died, 2 Koreans, 1 Russian.

Ussuri Railroad : Three cases, Russians.

Dalny : Seventy cases, died, 30 ; recovered, 2.

Habarofsk : Nineteen cases, Russian ; 9 Chinese, 6 Koreans, 1 Japanese ; died, 4 Russians, 3 Chinese, 2 Koreans.

Port Arthur : One hundred and thirty-three cases ; died, 80 ; recovered, 24.

Fukow (Newchwang) : One hundred and forty-eight cases, 126 died, 11 recovered.

Talienman : Two cases, 1 Russian, 1 Japanese, both fatal.

Tamafin : Three cases, Russian.

Station Tchernigofka : 1 case, Russian.

Pasiet : One case, Korean.

Village Natveifka : Seven cases, died, 1.

Prokhor : Two cases, Russian.

Vorohejsk : One case.

Annensky Mineral Springs : One Russian, died.